AGENDA DATE: 3/21/02 AGENDA ITEM: 1A



## STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

IN THE MATTER OF THE AUDITS OF THE) COMPETITIVE SERVICES OFFERINGS (COMPETITIVE SERVICES OFFERINGS (COMPETITION OF NEW JERSEY'S ELECTRIC AND GAS (COMPETITION OF NEW JERSEY COMPETITION OF NEW JERSEY CO

AUDITS
ORDER ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL
RECOMMENDATIONS
BPU DOCKET NOS. AA00040232,
EA00040233, EA00040234,
EA00040235, EA00040236,
GA0004023, GA00040238,
GA00040239

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

## BY THE BOARD:

By its February 8, 2002 Order, the Board adopted the Competitive Service Audit Reports prepared by independent consultants for each of the electric and gas utilities and ordered implementation of 63 recommendations out of a total of 80 recommendations made by the auditors. The Order further provided that briefs and/or further comments from the parties addressing the issues raised by the Audit Reports should be submitted within 15 days of the date of the order, or February 25, 2002. By letter dated February 22, 2002, the Division of Ratepayer Advocate (the "Advocate") requested an extension of time until March 1, 2002 for submission of the Advocate's comments. The Advocate advised the Board that they did not receive copies of the Board's Order until February 14, 2002 as the reason for the request. On March 6, 2002 the Board by order, granted the Advocate's extension, nunc pro tunc.

As part of the February 8, 2002, Order the Advocate as well as the utilities were permitted to file replies to briefs and/or comments within seven (7) days from the deadline for the briefs and/or comments. All parties filed their comments in a timely fashion. With respect to the comments raised by the Advocate, the Board at its March 21, 2002 agenda meeting has decided to accept four additional recommendations to be implemented by staff. These recommendations are with regard to the Atlantic City Electric Company Report, recommendations I.B.6 and I.B.7; and the Jersey Central Power and Light Company Report, recommendations II.B(1) and IV.B(2). Regarding the other comments filed by the Advocate and the utilities, the Board has authorized all unresolved issues to be promptly addressed in the second round of audits on this matter.

## It is therefore **ORDERED** that:

- 1. The utilities, under the supervision of the Division of Audits, shall prepare detailed plans for implementation of the four recommendations cited above. These detailed plans shall be prepared fifteen days from the date of the Order.
- 2. All comments and/or briefs, reply comments and/or briefs be considered in the next round of audits on this matter.

DATED: March 27, 2002 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

(Signed)

JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

(Signed)

FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER

(Signed)

CAROL J. MURPHY COMMISSIONER

(Signed)

CONNIE O. HUGHES COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

(Signed)

REGINALD JOHNSON ACTING SECRETARY

BPU Docket Nos. AA00040232, EA00040233, EA00040234, EA00040235, EA00040236, GA0004023, GA00040238 GA00040239